

CLAIMS

1. A printer comprising supporting means (3) having a setting area (6) on which a data recording medium (100) is settable, the supporting means (3) being movable between a print position
5 where printing is possible on the recording medium (100) set on the setting area thereof and a setting/removing position where the recording medium (100) is settable/removable, and printing means (35) for printing on a predetermined area of the recording medium (100) set in the setting area of the supporting means (3) when the
10 supporting means (3) that supports the recording medium (100) is at the print position, the printer being characterized by:

an aligning member (13) movable between an aligning position where the aligning member (13) overlaps with a surface of the setting area (6) except for at least the predetermined area of the
15 recording medium (100) and a retractive position to which the aligning member (13) has retracted from the surface of the setting area (6), the aligning member (13) aligning at the aligning position the position and direction of a print area on the recording medium (100) set on the setting area (6) on which the printing means (35)
20 should print,

the aligning member (13) moving from the aligning position to the retractive position as the supporting means (3) moves from the print position to the setting/removing position, and being movable from the retractive position to the aligning position.

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2. The printer according to claim 1, wherein the aligning member (13) is slidable relative to the supporting means (3)

between the aligning position and the retractive position, the aligning member (13) comprising an engaging element (20) engageable with a printer body (1) when the supporting means (3) moves from the print position toward the setting/removing position to thereby stop the movement of the aligning member (13), and disengaged from the printer body (1) as the engaging member (20) moves relative to the aligning member (13) when the supporting means (3) is at the setting/removing position.

10 3. The printer according to claim 2, wherein the engaging element (20) takes the form of an elastic leaf spring engageable with the printer body (1).

15 4. The printer according to claim 1, wherein the aligning member (13) is made of an optically transparent material.

 5. The printer according to claim 1, wherein the aligning member (13) has an indicator (25) as a reference for alignment of the position and direction of the print area on the recording medium
20 (100).

 6. The printer according to claim 5, wherein the indicator (25) comprises at least one vertical or horizontal reference line segment (25a or 25b).

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 7. The printer according to claim 5, wherein the indicator (25) comprises at least one reference line segment (25c or

25d) inclined at a predetermined angle to the vertical or horizontal.

8. The printer according to claim 1, wherein the aligning member (13) is made of an optically transparent material and
5 having an aligning portion (13a) with an indicator (25) formed thereon, the aligning portion (13a) being disposed at a specified position of a print on the recording medium (100) formed beforehand by the manufacturer or in the vicinity of the specified position when the aligning member (13) has moved to the aligning position, the
10 indicator (25) being a reference for aligning the position and direction of the print area on the recording medium (100).

9. The printer according to claim 8, wherein the indicator (25) comprises at least one vertical or horizontal reference
15 line segment (25a or 25b).

10. The printer according to claim 8, wherein the indicator (25) comprises at least one inclined reference line segment (25c or 25d) inclined at a predetermined angle to the vertical or
20 horizontal.